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February 28, 2025

To: Senate Committee on Housing and Development

Re: Support for HB 3031

Dear Chair Marsh, Vice Chairs Anderson and Breese-Iverson, and Members of the Committee, Northwest Housing Alternatives (NHA) is a 40-year-old nonprofit, mission-oriented, community-based housing organization. On behalf of the families, seniors, Veterans, and people living with disabilities who make their homes within NHA's affordable housing portfolio of nearly 2,500 affordable units, NHA supports HB 3031-1 which will implement a housing infrastructure financing program.

The high cost of infrastructure is one of the biggest barriers to developing more housing. This bill will directly fund the improvement / expansion of critical infrastructure needed to support more housing across Oregon. In recent years, NHA has seen the cost of infrastructure related to affordable housing development grow significantly as community-wide improvements are being tied to individual developments. Jurisdictions do not have funding to complete these necessary improvements apart from new development projects. The state can support more housing development by directly investing in critical public infrastructure and thus lessening the cost for individual projects.

There are many ready-to-build projects in development pipelines across Oregon that would benefit significantly from access to the program HB 3031-1 would create. NHA strongly encourages your support for HB 3031-1.

Thank you for your dedication and thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lydia Slocum".

Lydia Slocum, Senior Housing Developer